

JUL 24 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director/Intelligence

SUBJECT : Intelligence Estimate of Soviet Scientific and Technological Capabilities

1. Attached as Tab A is a memorandum from Mr. Whitman, Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, which requests that CIA prepare annually by 1 October, or as soon thereafter as practicable, a long range (10-15 years) estimate of Soviet scientific and technological capabilities and intentions within our area of primary production responsibility as allocated in DCID 3/4. It is recommended that Mr. Whitman's request be accepted, and attached as Tab B is a proposed reply for your signature. In support of this recommendation, please note that:

a. This estimate is needed to supplement the estimate being prepared by the JIC on those subjects within the Services' area of primary production responsibility.

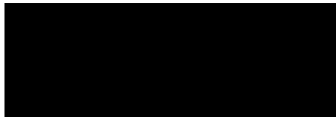
b. NIEs-65 and 90 are short-term estimates, whereas a 10-15 year estimate is required for research and development planning.

c. The scientific and technical appendices to NIEs-65 and 90 do not contain the detailed intelligence required to meet Mr. Whitman's needs, which have been discussed with his intelligence officer.

d. Inasmuch as the requested estimate will cover only CIA's area of primary production responsibility, an IAC coordinated estimate is not required; the estimate will be prepared by O/SI without recourse to the NIE mechanism.

2. O/NE has been informed of the foregoing and concurs therein.

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Acting Assistant Director  
Scientific Intelligence

Attachments: 2  
(Tabs A and B)